

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multimedia information communication apparatus for dissolving, at a data demultiplexing, a multiplexed coded bit stream into video data and audio data, the video data having attached thereto an error correction character produced at an encoding end in accordance with a predetermined error correction calculation, and for decoding the video data and 10 the audio data by outputting the video data to a video decoder and outputting the audio data to an audio decoder, wherein

      said media demultiplexer comprises:

15      demultiplexing means for dissolving the coded bit stream into the video data and the audio data;

      error correction character generating means for receiving the video data from said demultiplexing means and subjecting the same to 20 the predetermined error correction calculation;

      error information adding unit for comparing a result of calculation by said error correction character generating means with the error correction character attached to the video 25 data, and for attaching error information based on a result of comparison to the video data, and wherein

      said video decoder decodes the video data by referring to the error information 30 attached to the video data by said error

information adding unit.

2. The multimedia information communication apparatus according to claim 1,  
5 wherein said multimedia demultiplexer further comprises error correction character isolating means for receiving the video data from said demultiplexing means, isolating the error correction character from the video data, and for  
10 outputting video data stripped of the error correction character to error information adding unit.

3. The multimedia information communication apparatus according to claim 1,  
15 wherein the coded bit stream conforms to the standard video data compressing and encoding system specified in the ITU-T Recommendation and the ISO/IEC Standard.

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4. The multimedia information communication apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein:  
the coded bit stream is an MPEG4  
25 (ISO/IEC Standard 14496-2) bit stream specified in the ITU-T Recommendation and the ISO/IEC Standard describing a video compression and encoding system, and each video packet in the video data constituting an MPEG4 data transfer unit has  
30 attached thereto an error correction character

generated at the encoding end in accordance with the predetermined error correction calculation;

                  said error correction character generating means in said media demultiplexer

5 subjects each video packet to the predetermined error correction calculation; and

                  said error information adding unit in said media demultiplexer compares a result of calculation in each video packet by said error correction character generating means with the error correction character attached to each video packet in the video data, and attaches error information based on a result of comparison to each video packet in the video data.

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5. The multimedia information communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said error information adding means adds the error information at the end of each video packet in the video data.

6. The multimedia information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

25                  said error information adding means adds the error information that starts with a fixed-length code comprising a unique bit pattern to each video packet in the video data.

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7. A multimedia information

communication method for dissolving a multiplexed coded bit stream into video data and audio data, the video data having attached thereto an error correction character produced at an encoding end

5 in accordance with a predetermined error correction calculation, and for decoding the video data and the audio data, comprising steps of:

receiving the coded bit stream and dissolving the same into video data and audio data

10 so as to subject the video data to the predetermined error correction calculation;

comparing a result of calculation with the error correction character attached to the video data, and adding error information based on

15 a result of comparison to the video data; and

decoding the video data by referring to the error information attached to the video data.